



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

September 27, 2010

To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

FEASIBILITY REPORT ON THE AUGMENTATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STAFF (ITEM 63, AGENDA OF APRIL 20, 2010)

On April 20, 2010, your Board requested the Chief Executive Officer to conduct a feasibility study to determine the viability of assigning a liaison from appropriate County departments to increase available staff assigned to the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), to enhance collaboration and coordination across the County departments, and to improve our County's emergency management duties as defined in County Code 2.68.

In response to the Board motion, a series of meetings were held with the following departments to discuss the viability of a dedicated liaison to OEM:

- Sheriff
- Fire
- Public Works
- Internal Services
- Public Health
- Health Services
- Mental Health
- Public Social Services

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The conclusion of these meetings produced the following findings:

- The participating departments currently have dedicated staff serving in the role of Department Emergency Coordinator (DEC), assigned to perform emergency management functions including the development of plans, County Emergency Operations Center (CEOC) staffing assignments, participation in public information releases, and community outreach activities.

The DECs also participate in the Emergency Management Council (EMC) Subcommittee, Emergency Exercise Design Team, and numerous emergency management plan taskforces.

- The departments were unanimously in favor of expanding the usage of the existing DECs for additional OEM projects and responsibilities. The additional work would be directed through the currently established work groups, such as the EMC Subcommittee.
- Due to the current fiscal climate, the departments have expressed that they do not have the staffing flexibility or resources to assign a designated full-time liaison position to OEM at this time. Unfortunately, the departments are unable to backfill the lost DEC positions, which would create staffing problems in other areas of each department's operation.
- The departments also acknowledged the value of a designated department liaison and expressed interest of further discussions in developing and determining the appropriate job skill requirements for this role once the current fiscal situation has improved and staffing levels are back to normal.

Recommendation

Following additional discussions with each department, we are recommending a follow-up meeting with the appropriate departments again at the conclusion of the 2010-2011 fiscal year to reassess the feasibility of having departments designate a budgeted position for use by OEM.

Each Supervisor
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Should you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy Chief Executive Officer Jacqueline A. White, Public Safety, at (213) 893-2374 or Manager John Fernandes, OEM, at (323) 980-2260.

WTF:BC:JAW
DC:llm

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Fire
Health Services
Internal Services
Mental Health
Public Health
Public Social Services

OEM Feasibility Study.042010.Item 63.bm.092010.docx